

PATENT
Attorney Docket No: SLM-06400

- B / 10 b. means for adjusting a relative height of the elongated elements of each of the
11 groupings such that in operation the incident light illuminating the elongated
12 elements produces a single diffraction order selectable between a first diffraction
13 angle and minus the first diffraction angle.
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1 35. (Canceled)

1 36. (Twice Amended) A light modulator comprising:

- B 2 a. elongated elements arranged parallel to each other and configured into one of a
3 plurality of group configurations of the elongated elements, each elongated
4 element comprising a reflective surface and a first conductive element, each
5 group configuration comprises a specific number of at least three elongated
6 elements within the group configuration, and the light modulator is configured
7 according to a single group configuration at a time; and
8 b. a substrate coupled to the elongated elements, the substrate comprising a second
9 conductive element such that in operation an incident light illuminating the
10 elongated elements produces a reflected light when the elongated elements are at a
11 first height and further such that in operation a relative height of the elongated
12 elements of each grouping are adjusted to produce a single diffraction order when
13 individually varying electrical biases are applied between the first conductive
14 elements of each of the groupings and the second conductive element, wherein the
15 single diffraction order is selectable between a first diffraction angle and minus
16 the first diffraction angle.
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1 37. (Amended) A light modulator comprising:

- B 2 a. means for reflecting an incident light; and
3 b. means for adjusting the means for reflecting such that the incident light diffracts
4 into a single diffraction order selectable between a first diffraction angle and
5 minus the first diffraction angle, wherein the first diffraction angle is variable
6 according to the means for adjusting by reconfiguring a number of elongated
elements within an elongated element group configuration.
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Amendments to the claims (marked version showing changes):

31. (Twice Amended) A light modulator comprising:

- a. elongated elements arranged parallel to each other and dynamically configurable into one of a plurality of group configurations [in groupings] of the elongated elements, each elongated element comprising a reflective surface such that in operation an incident light illuminating the elongated elements produces a reflected light when the elongated elements are at a first height, [each of the groupings comprising at least three of the elongated elements and each of the groupings comprising an identical number of the elongated elements] each group configuration comprises a specific number of at least three elongated elements within the group configuration, and the light modulator is configured according to a single group configuration at a time; and
- b. means for adjusting a relative height of the elongated elements of each of the groupings such that in operation the incident light illuminating the elongated elements produces a single diffraction order selectable between a first diffraction angle and minus the first diffraction angle.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Twice Amended) A light modulator comprising:

- a. elongated elements arranged parallel to each other and configured into one of a plurality of group configurations [in groupings] of the elongated elements, each elongated element comprising a reflective surface and a first conductive element, [each of the groupings comprising at least three of the elongated elements and each of the groupings comprising an identical number of the elongated elements] each group configuration comprises a specific number of at least three elongated elements within the group configuration, and the light modulator is configured according to a single group configuration at a time; and
- b. a substrate coupled to the elongated elements, the substrate comprising a second conductive element such that in operation an incident light illuminating the elongated elements produces a reflected light when the elongated elements are at a

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13 first height and further such that in operation a relative height of the elongated
14 elements of each grouping are adjusted to produce a single diffraction order when
15 individually varying electrical biases are applied between the first conductive
16 elements of each of the groupings and the second conductive element, wherein the
17 single diffraction order is selectable between a first diffraction angle and minus
18 the first diffraction angle.

- 1 37. (Amended) A light modulator comprising:
2 a. means for reflecting an incident light; and
3 b. means for adjusting the means for reflecting such that the incident light diffracts
4 into a single diffraction order selectable between a first diffraction angle and
5 minus the first diffraction angle, wherein the first diffraction angle is variable
6 according to the means for adjusting by reconfiguring a number of elongated
7 elements within an elongated element group configuration [having a variable
diffraction angle].